E. J. requested by phone - 6/17/67.

CBS NEWS

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ERIC SEVAREID
National Correspondent

May 12, 1967

The Honorable Earl Warren
Chief Justice
United States Supreme Court
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chief Justice,

I'm taking a long shot here, and perhaps a liberty, but I do hope you will give this suggestion some serious thought.

For many months, CBS News has been going through all the material on the assassination of President Kennedy. The Commission report and the various critical books have been studied. Many people have been interviewed. It is our plan to put on the air, in June, hour-long programs on the subject on three successive nights. I don't think network television has ever done anything quite like this before.

The end result of these programs will be a re-affirmation of the essential correctness of the "Warren Report." You will not be surprised that this new look -- including some new, scientific evaluations of the three-shots-in-a-few-seconds question -- only reinforces the conclusions of the Commission.

I cannot tell in advance the net effect on public thinking of these programs but there is bound to be considerable effect, and my guess would be that they will tend to quiet the doubts and worries of a great many people.

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Is it possible that you would take part in this, in the form of a filmed interview with me, to go into the program? I know you would never be interviewed on matters concerning the Court. But this matter is of such basic public interest and is part and parcel of the prevailing "credibility gap," so called, that it occurred to me that you might re-consider your public silence on the question. You would add enormous weight to the argument, were you to do this. I think that the moment has come when the scales can be tipped in the direction of common sense on this agonizing matter of the assassination. If that can be done, the mental health of this country would be considerably improved.

We will not pursue you on this, but will hope for an early reply.

Sincerely yours,

Eric Sevareid

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